project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for the balance amount (upto Rs. 25 lakhs) it is 10%.

Assessment of **GDP**

2439. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of negative environmental impact of development is being taken into account while assessing Gross Domestic Product (GDP);

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that over 10 per cent of the country's GDP is being lost annually due to environmental damage and related impact;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the steps Government has taken to control the environmental damage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Though concerns have been expressed both at national and international levels to take into account the environmental damages in the economic aggregates, it has not, however, been possible to evolve firm agreement at the international level on concept, definition, measurement and valuation of environmental assets and degradation beyond natural rejuvenation process. Therefore, the UN Statistical Commission has not recommended that the estimates of GDP be corrected for environmental damages.

(c) and (d) No official estimates of the loss of GDP due to environment damage and related impact are available. Some research studies are, however, available which indicate such losses varying from 2.64% to about 10%. These research studies are not based on comparable methodology and are heavily influenced by the value judgement of research workers.

(d) Several steps have been taken by the Government to prevent and control

damage to the environment. Measures taken include prevention and control of pollution through legislation viz., Air (prevention and control of pollution) Act, 1981, Water (prevention and control of pollution) Act, 1974 as amended upto the 1988, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Bio- Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1988, National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995, National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997, the Environment (protection) (Second Amendment) Rules, 1999— Emission Standards for New Generator Sets, Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1999 notification., etc; Mandatory Environment Impact Assessment of Development Projects to mitigate damage to Environment; Emphasis on Pollution Prevention rather than end of the Pipe Pollution Control; Fiscal incentives to the industries for adopting cleaner production technology; an allocation of Rs. 850 crores made for 2000-2001 for implementing various schemes of the Ministry of Environment including Control of Pollution and Afforestation.

Misuse of MPLADS Fund

2440. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the former CBI Director has revealed about misuse MPLADS fund for "Personal Purposes";

(b) if so, whether the matter has been probed and the result thereof; and

(c) if not, the action proposed to ensure proper utilisation of MPLADS fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) A copy of the letter dated 8.4.1999 addressed to Chief Vigilance Commissioner by Shri Joginder Singh, former Director, CBI was received through Central Vigilance Commissioner. The main thrust of the letter of Shri Joginder Singh was that a quota of money has been made available to the present Members of